The Pyongyang Times

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NEW YEAR ADDRESS

KIM IL SUNG

Comrades,

We have rung out a year of victory amidst the fruitful struggle for the prosperity of the country and the happiness of the people and are ushering in the new year 1978, a hopeful year when we embark on the Second Seven-Year Plan.

Today when another striking landmark has been erected on the short road to socialism and communism and we start on a new march towards a still higher peak in the building of socialism, the whole country is ebullient with boundless joy and revolutionary enthusiasm.

I would like to offer warm congratulations to our heroic working class, cooperative farmers, valiant men and officers of the People's Army, working intellectuals and all the Korean people who are greeting the New Year with the great pride of victors and in a dauntless fighting spirit.

On the New Year occasion I extend militant greetings to the south Korean revolutionaries, patriotic democrats, youth, students and people from all walks of life who are waging an indomitable struggle for democratic freedom and national reunification without yielding to the fascist repression of US imperialists and their minions.

I give my New Year blessings to our 600,000 compatriots in Japan and all our overseas nationals who are ringing in the New Year in faraway foreign lands looking towards their socialist homeland as the beacon of hope and feeling a noble national pride and patriotic enthusiasm.

The year 1977 was a year of glorious victory when brilliant successes were achieved on all fronts of socialist construction.

Last year our people aglow with intense loyalty to the Party and the revolution worked energetically and carried out the enormous tasks of socialist construction with honours.

By our endeavours last year we completely removed the strains in some branches of the economy created temporarily in the course of fulfilling the Six-Year Plan, and laid the solid foundation for successfully reaching new higher targets. Thus, having consolidated the achievements registered already in building socialism, we are now in a position to embark on the Second Seven-Year Plan confidently in full readiness.

Last year our daring transport workers brought about a new turn in their work through a vigorous "200-day fight for a revolution in transport". Thanks to their strenuous efforts, the material and technical foundation of railway transport was further consolidated, and the policy for centralized transport, combined communication and container transport was carried out actively. As a consequence, we are now capable of fully meeting the transport needs of different branches of the national economy.

The mining workers also did their work well. Upholding the policy of keeping the mining industry definitely ahead of the processing industries, our faithful miners strove to rebuild or expand the mines on a large scale and improve their technical equipment. Thus, they radically increased the output of minerals including coal. In particular, the heroic workers of the coal complexes in the Tokchon, Kaechon and Kujang areas, the Tukjang coal mine and the combined Anju coal mine made strong and faithful efforts for increasing production and recently doubled coal output as compared with the previous year. This was an innovation.

Last year the workers in other branches of industry, such as engineering, power and chemical, too, carried out their assigned revolutionary tasks with credit and actively contributed to the building of socialism in our country.

The successes achieved in agriculture last year were outstanding. In spite of the highly unfavourable weather that continued from early spring owing to the influence of the cold front, the entire Party and all people and armymen turned out to give a powerful support to the countryside and the Juche-based methods of farming were applied in full, with the result that an unprecedentedly rich harvest was gathered in. Thus, the flag of victory was flown on the height of 8.5 million-ton grain production. This is a striking demonstration of the correctness of our Party's agricultural policy and the great vitality of the Juche-based farming methods.

By waging a vigorous struggle to carry out the five-point policy of nature remaking, our agricultural workers and all people completed irrigation projects on 200,000 *chongbo* of non-paddy fields and brought the irrigation system to fuller perfection. Now a firm foundation has been built for raising crops safely in whatever adverse weather conditions.

Last year great progress was also made in science, education, literature, art and other domains of the building of socialist culture.

The men and officers of our People's Army and

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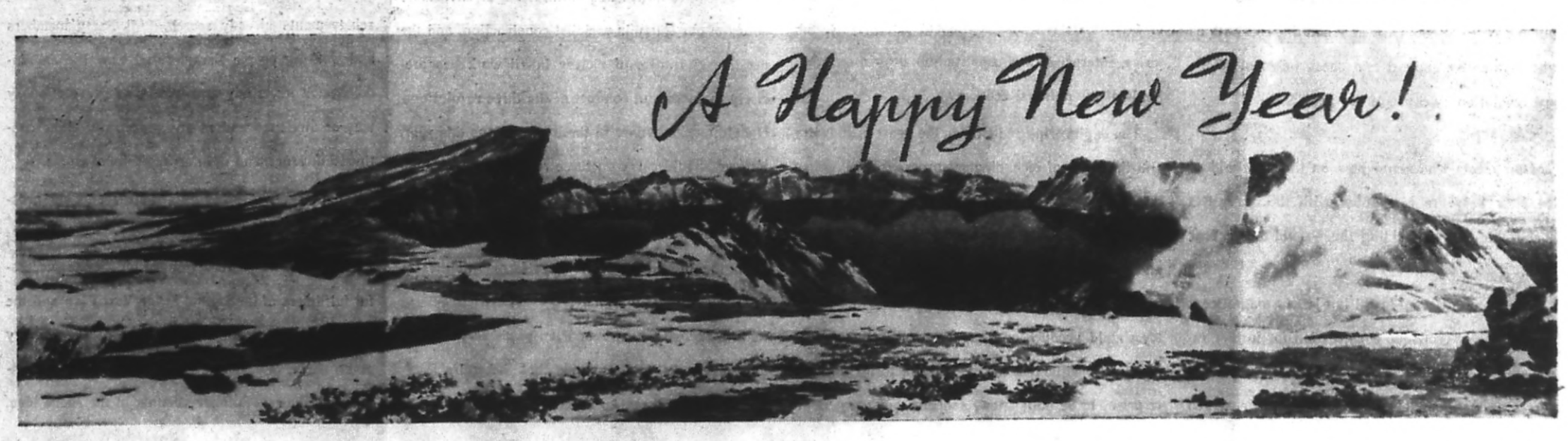


NEW YEAR ADDRESS

KIM IL SUNG

(Continued from Page 1)

People's Security Forces, Worker-Peasant Red Guardsmen, Red Young Guardsmen and public security personnel always maintained a tense and stand-by attitude and firmly defended the security of the country and the gains of the revolution.

Last year we held elections to the Supreme People's Assembly with success under the circumstances in which the whole country was seething with great political ardour and formed the new Government of the Republic with the unqualified support and confidence of the entire people. As a result, our revolutionary government has been further consolidated and the political and ideological unity of our people rallied closely around the Government of the Republic has been strengthened as an indestructible one. This is a secure guarantee for our people to push ahead still more briskly with the revolutionary struggle and construction work and to achieve still greater victories and successes in the future.

Last year was indeed a significant year when an epochal progress was made in the political life of our people and the socialist construction of the country. Looking back with a joyful heart on last year which is resplendent with victory and glory, I extend my heartfelt thanks to all our people, including our heroic working class, cooperative farmers, valorous men and officers of the People's Army and working intellectuals, who made immortal achievements on all fronts of socialist construction by showing unbounded loyalty to the Party and the revolution.

Last year the international solidarity of our revolution became stronger still due to the independent foreign policy and active foreign operations of the Government of the Republic. The relations of friendship and cooperation between our country and many nations of the world developed further and the number of those who support and sympathize with our revolutionary cause increased remarkably.

On the New Year occasion, I extend warm congratulations and greetings to all our friends and to the peoples of all amicable nations of the world including socialist countries and non-aligned nations who give active support and encouragement to the just revolutionary cause of our people.

Comrades,

Our people who stand now on the threshold of the New Year are confronted with the heavy yet honourable task of tackling the Second Seven-Year Plan.

The Second Seven-Year Plan is a magnificent programme of economic construction for further increasing the economic power of the country and hastening the complete victory of socialism. When the new long-term plan is fulfilled, our socialist independent national economy will become still more consolidated and developed on the basis of modern science and technology, and an epochal progress will be made in our people's onward movement towards socialism and communism.

The new year 1978 is the first year of the Second Seven-Year Plan and we are going into a new battle today. Successful fulfilment of the new prospective plan depends largely on how we carry out the battle this year. A good beginning is indispensable for success in every undertaking. The entire Party and all people should turn out as one man in the drive to carry out this year's tasks triumphantly, and bring about a new great upswing on all fronts of socialist construction.

The mining industry represents the main target of the Second Seven-Year Plan. Only when this industry is kept definitely ahead of other branches, will it be possible to successfully solve the question of fuel and power, feed the processing industries with enough raw materials, and largely expand the sources of foreign currency. The key to success in carrying out the Second Seven-Year Plan lies, after all, in giving definite precedence to the mining industry. This year we should concentrate efforts on the mining industry and reconstruct more mines on an expansion basis and radically increase their production capacities, thereby ensuring the priority of the mining industry in the fulfilment of the Second Seven-Year Plan.

Continuous innovations should be made in transport. In this field our Party's policy of applying three transport methods—centralized transport, combined communication and container transport—should be thoroughly implemented so as to meet better the growing demand of the national economy for transport. The hardness of rails should be increased and the number of waggons multiplied greatly, so that mass transport and long-distance transport by railway will be actively promoted. Along with railway transport, motor and water transport should be strengthened, and combined rail-motor-water communication ensured smoothly so as to carry materials and equipment promptly to factories, enterprises and construction sites in different fields of the national economy.

The engineering industry is the heart of industry and the basis of technological progress. Only when this industry works properly will it be possible to develop the mining industry and transport rapidly and guarantee successful work in all fields of the national economy. This year the engineering industry should produce and supply specifically ordered equipment without a hitch to the factories and enterprises to be built anew, and turn out great numbers of various kinds of machine tools including large-sized ones for different branches of the national economy. At the same time, more machinery and equipment such as heavy-duty lorries, heavy excavators and bulldozers and compressors badly needed for the development of the mining industry, and more electric and diesel locomotives, various types of waggons, and large cargo ships needed in transport should be built.

I firmly believe that in the new year all the workers and technicians in the engineering industry will carry out their honourable assignments creditably without failing to meet the great expectations of the Party.

In all other branches of industry, too, innovations should be made this year. Vigorous efforts should be made in all industrial branches to use the capacities of existing factories to the maximum, so that their equipment is operated to the full, their production normalized and labour productivity further increased. By so doing, they should overfulfil their assigned tasks this year without fail.

This year, too, we should devote great efforts to the agricultural front. Only when grain is produced in large quantities through good farming can industry be developed rapidly, the people's living standard raised further and all problems arising in socialist construction solved satisfactorily. In view of the world's food situation becoming acute as the days go by, good farming poses as a more urgent problem. In the field of agriculture the preparations for farming should be made scrupulously and crops raised on a scientific and technological basis according to the requirements of the Juche-based farming methods, so that a bumper crop is reaped this year, too.

Since the influence of the cold front continues, if grain output is to be increased, the damage from drought should be prevented thoroughly. The entire people should turn out to draw up and reserve even a drop of water without wasting it, dig many wells to secure more resources of water, thereby continuously expanding the irrigated non-paddy fields.

Energetic promotion of the three revolutions—ideological, technical and cultural—is an invariable policy of our Party in socialist construction, and the decisive guarantee of victory in all work lies precisely in successful conduct of the three revolutions. Upholding the banner of three revolutions this year, too, we should carry on these revolutions vigorously, bringing about fresh upsurge in all fields of the revolution and construction and further strengthening our revolutionary forces politically, economically and militarily.

The Second Seven-Year Plan poses very difficult and vast tasks, and demands that the entire Party and all people wage an unremitting struggle for its fulfilment. We should tackle this plan with our own strength, techniques and resources. Arming themselves closely with our Party's Juche idea and fully displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance, all Party members and working people should solve difficult and complex problems arising in socialist construction on their own and dauntlessly break through all the obstacles and hardships lying ahead. In all fields of the national economy the latent reserves should be actively tapped and used and a struggle for increased production and economy intensified to manufacture and build more with the manpower, equipment and materials available.

The recent session of the Supreme People's Assembly set forth the important task of strengthening the people's government. Our people's government is the people's servant working in the interests of the masses of the working people, and is a powerful weapon of the revolution and construction. We should jealously defend the interests of the popular masses and accelerate socialist construction briskly by further strengthening the people's government and enhancing its functions and role in every way.

Today our people's revolutionary enthusiasm is running very high and the country's situation is also very favourable. The point is how our functionaries mobilize, organize and guide the people to display a high degree of revolutionary ardour.

The leading personnel of the Party, state and economic institutions should strive to be versed in their work in the attitude of the master of the revolution, organize and conduct all activities ready to take the responsibility for their own work and acquire the revolutionary trait of carrying through to the end the task once undertaken. Further, all leading personnel should oppose bureaucracy categorically, always go among the masses of the people, hear the opinion and wishes of the people with willing ears and work in their interests. They should give precedence to political work and actively stir up the voluntary zeal and creative wisdom of the popular masses.

Because we are still on the road of the revolution, we should never be carried away by the achievements already scored. All Party members and working people should reject easy life and indolence; work, study and live in a revolutionary way at any time and at any place; and make continued advance and uninterrupted innovations.

Our targets of struggle are clear and our prospects are bright.

Let all of us vigorously fight on for the successful fulfilment of the Second Seven-Year Plan and the independent, peaceful reunification of the country at an early date, holding high the banner of communism, the revolutionary banner of the Juche idea.

New Year gathering of Pyongyang students and children, attended by the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung

MAY GREAT LEADER ENJOY LONG LIFE IN GOOD HEALTH!

Students and Children in Pyongyang Give New Year Performance, Honoured by Presence of Respected and Beloved Leader Marshal KIM IL SUNG

A joyful New Year gathering of students and children in Pyongyang was held at the Pyongyang Gymnasium on the evening of December 31 when the people of the whole country were seeing in the hopeful new year 1978, with great honour and infinite happiness of having reelected the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The great leader of our Party and our people Comrade Kim Il Sung attended the gathering.

The gymnasium was beautifully decorated in festive attire to celebrate the New Year with a bright-hued hope and fighting spirit, seeing off a year of significance.

Put up on the facade of the gymnasium was a large picture of Mangyongdae, cradle of revolution, where the great sun of our nation rose, and seen on the picture were the letters "May the great leader enjoy a long life in good health!". Set up at the main entrance to the gymnasium was a beautiful floral arch, flanked on either side by a colourfully bedecked tower and pine trees.

Put in place of honour in the spacious entrance was a painting of the august figure of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung feasting his eyes on the scenery of our homeland from the summit of Mt. Paekdu-san.

Also seen in the entrance was a picture of Mangyongdae, the spiritual birthplace of our people.

Also visible on the walls and pillars of the entrance were various pictures and decorations showing the brilliant achievements scored by our people in the building of socialism and the magnificent long-range targets of the Second Seven-Year Plan.

With bunches of flowers in their hands, the students and children standing on the staircase on both sides of the entrance were waiting for the glorious hour when their New Year gathering was to be graced by the presence of the respected and beloved father, Marshal Kim Il Sung.

The great leader of our Party and our people Comrade Kim Il Sung arrived at the gymnasium to the strains of welcome music.

The moment, school children, sending up stormy cheers of "Long live the great leader Marshal Kim Il Sung!" warmly welcomed with unbounded respect and infinite reverence the respected and beloved father, Marshal Kim Il Sung who, regarding them as the most precious treasures of the country, made public the "Theses on Socialist Education", a great educational programme, and shows profound affection and solicitude for them to bring them up to be dependable reserve forces of the revolution, and they extended the greatest honour and gratitude to him.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung was greeted at the main entrance of the gymnasium by leading functionaries of the Central Committee of the League of Socialist Working Youth and the Pyongyang City Party Committee.

Lovely children reverentially offered greetings of the new year 1978 to the respected and beloved father, Marshal Kim Il Sung, representing the unanimous desire of all our school children and people who wish him good health and a long life.

Amid the rising cheers of "manse" (hurrah), members of the Juvenile Corps rushed forth and tied a red neckerchief around the neck of the respected and beloved father, Marshal Kim Il Sung and presented fragrant flowers to him.

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung warmly clasped hands of the cheering school children and congratulated them on the hopeful New Year.

Attending the New Year gathering together with students and children in the city were Members and Alternate Members of the Political Committee of the Central Committee of the Party, Secretaries of the Central Committee of the Party, Vice-Premiers of the Administration Council, Department Directors of the Party Central Committee, Chairmen of Commissions and Ministers of the Administration Council, leading personages of political parties and public organizations, generals of the Korean People's Army and leading workers from scientific, educational, cultural, art, public health and press circles.

A delegation of functionaries of Chongryon (General Association of Korean Residents in Japan) on a visit to the homeland was present there.

Foreign diplomatic envoys and foreign guests staying in our country were invited to the gathering.

When the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung appeared in the box to the strains of welcome music, all the school children and audience warmly welcomed him with stormy cheers of "manse" and thunderous applause.

The inside of the gymnasium was beautifully bedecked with various decorations and slogans reading "May the respected and beloved father, Marshal Kim Il Sung enjoy a long life in good health!" "Thank you respected and beloved father, Marshal Kim Il Sung!" and "Let's become true sons and daughters boundlessly faithful to the respected and beloved father, Marshal Kim Il Sung!" and hanging from the ceiling was a brilliantly shining big lantern inscribed with the letter "Juche".

The gymnasium was pervaded with the feeling of unbounded reverence for the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung who brought up our people to be a mighty and dignified people and brought to them the well-being of today.

Lovely children presented with profound respect a basket of flowers carrying the feeling of loyalty of the entire school children and people of our country to the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and made the typical Korean-style bowing to him, reverentially wishing him good health and a long life.

Then the song and dance tale "New Year's Greetings to Father Marshal" was performed by more than 5,000 students and children in Pyongyang.

The curtain rose with the paean reflecting the intense loyalty of our entire children to the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung—"We Extend New Year Greetings to the Respected and Beloved Father, Marshal Kim Il Sung". The colourful programme included group dance "Long Live Our Commander" showing the playing at soldiers made by the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung in his childhood, song and dance tale "A Log Cabin Imbued with Love" vividly depicting deep love and profound solicitude shown by the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung for the Children's Corps members in the years of anti-Japanese armed struggle, fairy-tale dance, dance tale, song and dance, song and dance tale, dance and juvenile play, group dance, and others.

In their performance the students and children sang of the greatness of the "Theses on Socialist Education" representing the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung's lofty intention to rear all the youth and children of our country to be revolutionaries of a Juche type who are knowledgeable, virtuous and healthy and to bring about a bright future of the fatherland and the nation, and of his wise leadership for its materialization and his noble virtues, and they fully depicted their honour and joy of growing up happily under his loving care.

The performance closed with the song and dance "May the Respected and Beloved Father, Marshal Kim Il Sung Enjoy a Long Life in Good Health" reflecting the unanimous desire of the entire people and school children.

The performance won the warm acclamation of the audience.

When the performance was over, stormy cheers of "Long live the great leader Marshal Kim Il Sung!" arose throughout the gymnasium.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung cordially acknowledged enthusiastic cheers of school children and congratulated them upon their successful performance.

The Great Leader Comrade KIM IL SUNG

Sees New Year Music and Dance Performance Given By Artistes of KPA Song and Dance Ensemble

The great leader of our Party and our people Comrade Kim Il Sung saw a music and dance performance given by artistes of the Song and Dance Ensemble of the Korean People's Army greeting the New Year at the February 8 House of Culture on the afternoon of January 1.

The hall was pervaded with the excited feelings of the audience and the performers who would give their art performance in celebration of the New Year in the presence of the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, at a historic juncture when the entire Party members and working people of our country who had accepted his New Year Address amidst the great joy of having reelected him President of the DPRK started up a grand march to attain the magnificent targets of the Second Seven-Year Plan.

The great leader of our Party and our people Comrade Kim Il Sung appeared in the box to the strains of welcome music.

The moment, all the performers and audience enthusiastically welcomed the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung sending up stormy cheers of "Long live the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung!" and reverentially wished the great leader a long life in good health.

Women artistes courteously presented the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung with a flower-basket carrying the unanimous feeling of loyalty of the men and officers of the Korean People's Army and our people.

Greatly honoured to see the performance together with the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung were Members and Alternate Members of the Political Committee and Secretaries, of the Central Committee of the Party, Vice-Premiers of the Administration Council, Department Directors of the Central Committee of the Party, Chairmen of Commissions and Ministers of the Administration Council, leading functionaries of political parties and public organizations, Party and government bodies in Pyongyang, generals of the Korean People's Army and leading men of science, education, culture, art, public health and the press as well as working people and KPA servicemen in the city.

Invited to the performance were members of a delegation of functionaries of Chongryon on a visit to the homeland.

The performance began by cordially extending New Year greetings to the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung reflecting the general wishes of the entire men and officers of the People's Army and our people for his good health and long life. Put on the stage was a repertoire of colourful items including men's chorus "Always Looking Up to the Leader", "Company Life Is Good", "We Will Firmly Take Up Our Arms of Revolution", mixed duet "A General Stands on Sentry Duty Together with a Soldier", dances "Soldiers Passing by Fields of a Co-op Farm", "Members of the Women's Association of a Guerrilla Zone", "Sunflower" and "Spring in a Secret Camp", women's chorus "Best Is Our Country Where the Educational Theses Has Come into Bloom", women's solo and chorus "We Boast of Our Country Visited by a Bumper Harvest before the Whole World" and mixed chorus "Long Live the Great Juche Idea".

In their performance the artistes sang the high praises of the immortal revolutionary exploits performed by the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung and the noble qualities of the oneness of men and officers and of the unity of the army and the people fully displayed in the People's Army and clearly manifested the unshakable will and adamant resolve of the entire men and officers of the People's Army and our people to surely carry to completion the revolutionary cause of Juche pioneered and led by the respected and beloved leader.

The performance won the great admiration of the audience.

When the performance was over, cheers of "manse" (hurrah) again burst out, shaking the hall.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung responded to the enthusiastic cheers of the performers and audience and congratulated the performers on their successful art presentation.

The Great Leader Comrade KIM IL SUNG

Receives Messages of New Year's Greetings from CC, RPR and Chongryon CSC Chairman

Seeing out the old year of fruitful struggle under the radiant rays of the sun of Juche and seeing in the new year of glory full of hope, messages of greetings came to the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, the great sun of the nation, the genius of mankind and the affectionate father of our people, from the Central Committee of the Revolutionary Party for Reunification and Han Dok Su, Chairman of the Central Standing Committee of Chongryon (General Association of Korean Residents in Japan).

The messages extended the warmest congratulations and compliments of the New Year to the great leader, representing the ardent veneration and unanimous allegiance of the south Korean revolutionary vanguards and patriotic people, the entire Chongryon functionaries and compatriots in Japan who are ushering in a new, glorious year.

After referring to the proud successes gained in the outgoing year, they manifested the firm determination to advance vigorously towards a fresh victory in the new year, too, as in the past year.

Expressing the unisonous feelings of all revolutionaries and people of various strata in south Korea, the entire functionaries of Chongryon and compatriots in Japan, the messages reverentially wished the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung a long life in good health for the reunification of the country and the prosperity of the generations to come, for the triumphant advancement of the cause of Juche.

The Great Leader Comrade KIM IL SUNG

Exchanges New Year's Cards with Foreign Party and State Leaders

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, exchanged New Year's cards with the Party and state leaders of various countries on the new year 1978.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung received New Year's cards from: Comrade Hua Kuo-feng, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and Premier of the State Council of the People's Republic of China; Comrade Leonid Iiyich Brezhnev, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics; Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, General Secretary of the Romanian Communist Party and President of the Romanian Socialist Republic; Comrade Edward Gierek, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party; Comrade Gustav Husak, General Secretary of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party and President of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic; Comrade Janos Kadar, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party; Comrade Pal Losonczi, President of the Presidium of the Hungarian People's Republic; Comrade Y. Tsedenbal, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party and President of the Presidium of the Great People's Hural of the Mongolian People's Republic; His Excellency Mathieu Kerekou, President of the People's Republic of Benin; His Excellency Francisco Morales Bermudez Cerrutti, President of the Republic of Peru; His Excellency Kristjan Eldjarn, President of the Republic of Iceland; Her Majesty Margrethe the Second, Queen of the Kingdom of Denmark; His Excellency Rudolf Kirchschlaeger, President of the Republic of Austria; His Excellency U Ne Win, President of the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma; His Excellency Benjamin Henry Sheares, President of the Republic of Singapore; His Excellency Siaka Probyn Stevens, President of the Republic of Sierra Leone; His Excellency William R. Tolbert, President of the Republic of Liberia; His Excellency Kenneth David Kaunda, President of the Republic of Zambia; His Excellency Julius K. Nyerere, President of the United Republic of Tanzania; His Excellency Linden Forbes Sampson Burnham, Leader of the People's National Congress of Guyana and Prime Minister of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana; His Excellency Arthur Chung, President of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana; His Excellency Fazal Elahi Chaudhry, President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan; His Excellency General Mohammad Zia-Ul-Haq, Head of the Government and Martial Law Commander of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan; His Excellency N. Sanjiva Reddy, President of the Republic of India; His Excellency Ziaur Rahman, President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh; and His Excellency Carlos Andres Perez, President of the Republic of Venezuela.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung sent New Year's cards to them.

The Great Leader Comrade KIM IL SUNG

Receives Messages of Greetings from Party and State Leaders of Many Countries upon His Reelection as DPRK President

Messages are coming to the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung from Party and state leaders of various countries greeting his reelection as President of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Messages of greetings came from: His Excellency Luis Cabral, Deputy General Secretary of the African Party for the Independence of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde Islands and President of the Council of State of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau; His Excellency Masie Nguema Biyogo Negue Ndong, President of the Central Committee of the National United Workers' Party of Equatorial Guinea, Life President, Head of State and Head of the People's Revolutionary Government of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea; His Excellency Manuel Pinto da Costa, General Secretary of the Liberation Movement of Sao Tome and Principe and President of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe; His Excellency Lieutenant General Olusegun Obasanjo, Head of State, Head of the Federal Military Government and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria; His Excellency Yasser Arafat, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization and Commander-in-Chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces; His Excellency General Felix Malloum Ngakoutou Beyndi, President of the Supreme Military Council and Head of State of the Republic of Chad; His Excellency Rudolf Kirchschlaeger, President of the Republic of Austria; His Excellency J.R. Jayewardene, Prime Minister of the Republic of Sri Lanka; His Majesty Bokassa the First, Emperor of the Central African Empire; His Excellency Elias Sarkis, President of the Republic of Lebanon; His Excellency Dominic Mintoff, Prime Minister of the Republic of Malta; His Excellency Habib Bourguiba, President of the Republic of Tunisia; His Excellency General Soeharto, President of the Republic of Indonesia; His Excellency Lieutenant-Colonel Menghistu Haile Mariam, Chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council and Chairman of the Council of Ministers of Socialist Ethiopia; His Majesty Birendra Bir Bikram Shah Deva, King of the Kingdom of Nepal; Bassos Rissarides, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Socialist Party of Cyprus; and Werner Karovio, General Secretary of the Swiss Independent Socialist Party and Parliamentarian of the Confederation of Switzerland.

The first day of the New Year has dawned.

The New Year's day comes round every year. But for us this New Year day is a more meaningful holiday. Why? Because we greet it with a boundless honour of having reelected the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung President of the Republic.

Having accepted the congratulations and blessings offered to the entire people by the respected and beloved leader this morning, every heart of our people is now swelling with unbounded happiness and joy. Photo shows working people in the capital greeting the New Year.

Ardent Reverence for The Great Leader

Our people guided by the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung have seen out a year resplendent with victory and glory in the struggle to bring the revolutionary cause of Juche to a triumphant conclusion under the uplifted banner of three revolutions and greeted the significant year 1978, the first year of the Second Seven-Year Plan.

At the dawn of the New Year our people proceed to place flower baskets and bouquets of their sincere wishes before the majestic statue of the great leader that stands at the summit of the Mansudae hill in Pyongyang.

The whole land is laden with snow. But here on the Mansudae hill a rarely balmy spring season seems to have set in, showing its sign all over. A wide variety of beautiful flowers past counting send forth fragrant odour in different colours.

Although the hill has turned into a sea of flowers, column after column of visitors ascend it endlessly.

Intermingled with them are veteran fighters who cleaved their way under the command of the great leader during the bloody anti-Japanese struggle, covering a long, long distance, exposed to the cold wind and rain in rugged mountains; young folks, vivacious and vigorous, who are in the vanguard of three revolutions; and members of the Juvenile Corps who go ahead with their red scarves fluttering.

Perhaps, they are not all who climbed Mansudae.

The hearts of all people across the country run towards Mansudae. This morning our brothers fighting in south Korea and overseas compatriots, too, look up at the sky over Pyongyang where the great leader is and bow in humble reverence.

Indeed, the baskets of flowers and bundles of bouquets presented before the respectful statue of the great leader are permeated with the earnest desire of all of us people to attend him forever, holding him in high esteem as the sun of the nation and the father of the people.

"May the fatherly leader live long in good health for the eternal prosperity of our country and for the happiness of all successive generations."

This morning, our people, hoping for the respected and beloved leader's longevity, the greatest wish uppermost in their minds, humbly offer their first New Year greetings, looking up to the sky over Pyongyang where he is.

We people have ushered in the new year with an immense honour and happiness, having reelected the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung as President of the Republic. Now, overcome with exceptionally deep emotions, we retrospect the painstaking efforts exerted by the respected and beloved leader who has been dedicating himself solely to the freedom and welfare of the people all through his life.

When the fate of the country and the nation was at stake, the great leader rose high as the sun of the people from the low thatched house at Mangyongdae and set out on the road of the revolution in his early age bearing on his shoulders the destiny of the country and the nation and led the Korean revolution straightly to victory under the upheld banner of Juche, thus opening the new history of modern Korea.

Personally weathering through manifold difficulties and ordeals in the struggle for the people over a period of more than half a century, the respected and beloved leader established in this land a people's government exercising socialist democracy, the most genuine democracy, converted our country into a powerful socialist state, independent, self-supporting and self-defensive, and made our people a dignified people firmly taking their power and destiny in their hands.

The fatherly leader, infinitely benign, tender and modest, always finds himself among ordinary working people, showing most ardent love for them and sharing joy and sorrow with them. In order to provide the people with a happy life, he devotes his all to their interests, regardless of his own rest and sleep.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung has said:

"Nothing is more honourable and worthwhile than to enjoy the people's confidence and to serve them faithfully."

Truth to tell, apart from the history of the great leader's devoted service to the people we cannot think of the great change that has taken place in the destiny of our country and people, nor can we think of the turn brought about even in the fate of a family or a person.

As the great leader is with us, there are our fatherland and our nation, and there are for us people the glory of today and the happiness of morrow.

Respected and beloved Comrade Kim Il Sung is, indeed, the great leader and affectionate father whom our people have attended with high esteem for the first time in their history of thousands of years.

Hence, our people deem it the highest honour and the greatest happiness to have great Comrade Kim Il Sung as their leader and always wish him, the great leader, a long life in good health.

On the morning of the New Year our people pay their first compliments to the great leader, reverently and with their spotlessly pure loyalty to him.

"Dear leader, may you enjoy many, many years of life in good health."

Yun Jong Ok

DYNAMIC FIRST MARCH

Our working people have started up their new year grand march with the great pride of victors and confidence in brilliant future, at a time when the whole land is bubbling over with joy and emotion over the reelection of the great leader Comrade Kim Il Sung as President and when the whole country is seething with revolutionary enthusiasm, having accepted the magnificent blueprint of the Second Seven-Year Plan unrolled by the great leader and the New Year Address delivered by him.

Our people are convinced that their happiness of today is ascribable to the great leader and that victory and glory are in store for them when they follow the road indicated by him. This is the unshakable creed enshrined deep in their hearts through their experience of life.

A happier and worthier life they will lead when they reach the high eminences of the new long-range plan advanced by the great leader —this now boundlessly inspires our people.

That is why our working people see their clear goal and ways for its attainment in the militant programme for this year and have plunged into the first battle of the New Year with redoubled courage and full of confidence.

The respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il Sung has said:

"The new year 1978 is the first year of the Second Seven-Year Plan and we are going into a new battle today. Successful fulfilment of the new prospective plan depends largely on how we carry out the battle this year."

The working people all over the country who regard it as their highest honour and lofty duty to uphold the respected and beloved leader's teachings are now moving ahead in soaring spirits to carry this year's battle to an admirable success so as to fulfil the new long-term plan with flying colours.

Inflamed with ever more intense loyalty to the fatherly leader, our working people have commenced their vigorous advance, raising higher the banner of three revolutions and displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance. By virtue of their labour efforts for renovation, amazing results are being chalked up at all sites of socialist construction.

Colliers and miners in different areas who have taken upon themselves the task of hitting the main target of the new prospective plan are overfulfilling their assignments by far since they have set about the first work of the New Year.

The transport workers are also making uninterrupted innovation, consolidating the successes they gained last year in the "200-day fight for a revolution in transport".

They are now carrying more freight by implementing in all domains of railway, land and marine transportations the policy for application of three transport methods.

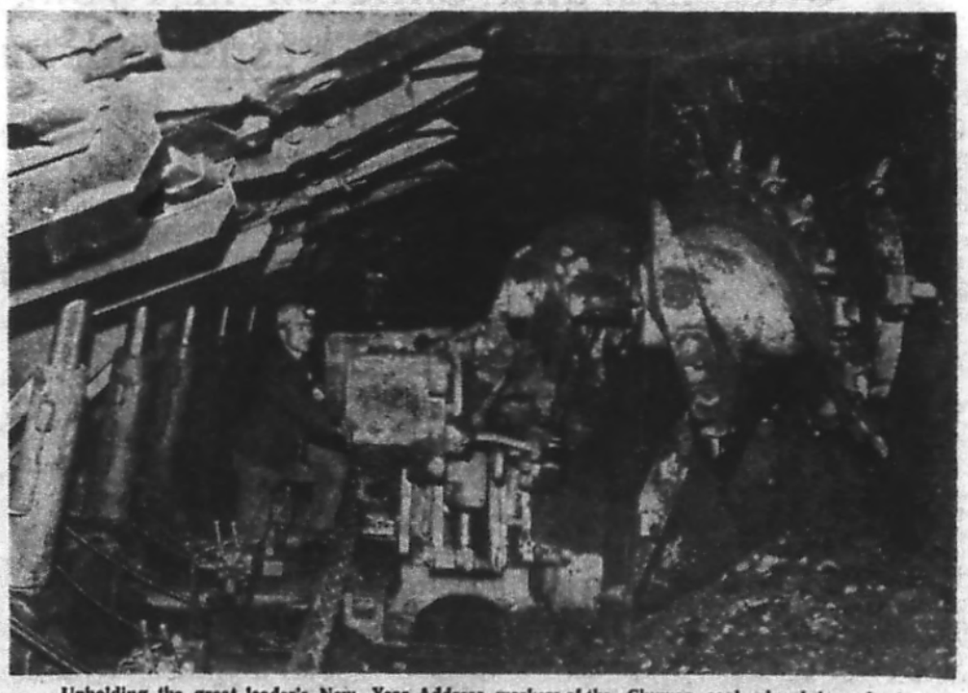
The machine-building plants in various parts of the country are turning out larger quantities of machines and equipment conducive to the modernization of the national economy and the metallurgical and chemical plants are markedly increasing the output of steel and chemical fertilizers.

The agricultural workers are bringing about great innovations in making thoroughgoing preparations for farming. For one thing, their renovation can be observed in the operation to ward off the influence of the cold front.

Quite elastic is the first step taken by our working people in the hopeful new year when they embark on the Second Seven-Year Plan, another landmark in the building of socialism.

Thanks to the dynamic advance of the loyal detachment of our working people who strive to put into practice the lofty intention of the great leader, rallied close around him, a decisive phase will be opened in successfully occupying the high peaks of the new long-range plan.

Li Chan Sun



Upholding the great leader's New Year Address workers of the Chuwon coal mine bring about fresh innovations from the very beginning of the first battle this year

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